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**ORUM & ROTH**

53 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-3606  
312.922.6262 PHONE  
312.922.7747 FAX

Attorney Docket Number: 13016

PATENTS

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)**

International Application Number: PCT/DE00/03051

International Filing Date: 05 September 2000

Priority Date Claimed: 9 June 1999

Title of Invention: TAP INSERT

Applicant(s) for DO/EO/US: BROMBACH, Frank

**Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items under 35 U.S.C. 371:**

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to immediately begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(I).
4. ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19<sup>th</sup> month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)):
  - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ A translation of the International Application into English
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19:
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has **NOT** expired.
  - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19(35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)):
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☒ will follow.
10. ☐ A translation of the Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).
11. ☒ Copy of the:
  - a. ☒ International Preliminary Examination Report.
  - b. ☒ International Search Report.
12. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
13. ☒ An Assignment document for recording with a separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31:
  - a. ☐ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☒ will follow.
14. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
15. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
16. ☐ A substitute specification.
17. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
18. ☒ Applicant claims Small Entity status

19. ☐ Other items of information: .....
20. ☒ 6 Sheets of drawings are enclosed.
21. ☒ The U.S. National Fee (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1)) and other fees as follows:

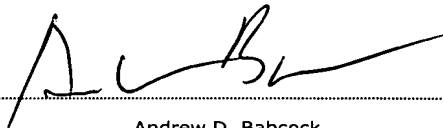
NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492):					TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/>	Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO (37CFR 1.492 (a)(5))				\$890
<input type="checkbox"/>	International Preliminary Examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1))				\$710
<input type="checkbox"/>	No International Preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.492(a)(2))				\$740
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neither International Preliminary examination fee nor International Search fee (37CFR 1.492(a)(3)) paid to USPTO				\$1,040
<input type="checkbox"/>	International Preliminary Examination fee paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)(37 CFR 1.492 (a)(4))				\$100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Surcharge for furnishing the oath of declaration later than 20 or 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e))				\$130
<input type="checkbox"/>	Processing fee for furnishing the English translation later than the 20 or 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f))				\$130
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assignment Recordal Sheet (37 CFR 1.21(L))				\$40
	Number of Claims Filed	Number of Claims Allowed	Number of Extra Claims	Rate per Extra Claim	
Total Number of Claims Filed	18	20	0	\$18	\$0
Number of Independent Claims Filed	1	3	0	\$80	\$0
		Yes	No	Rate per Application	
Number of Multiple Dependent Claims Filed	0			\$270	\$0
Total Fees Enclosed for Large Entity					\$1,040
Total Fees Enclosed for Small Entity (1/2 of Large Entity)					\$520

- a. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 520 to cover the fee is enclosed.
- b. ☐ Please charge my deposit account \$ 0 to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including request for extension and payment of extension fees due, when this is not explicitly requested by applicants, with a view toward avoidance of abandonment, to Deposit account No. 04-2219, referencing our docket # 13016. Any overpayment should be credited to this account.

Please direct all communication in connection with this application to the undersigned at:

**ORUM & ROTH**  
53 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-3606

Keith H. Orum  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration Number 33985

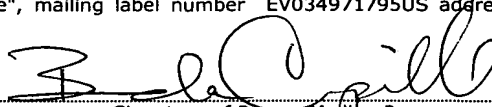
  
Andrew D. Babcock  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration Number 44517

George F. Dvorak  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration Number 17656

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this transmittal letter and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on March 5, 2002, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office Addressee", mailing label number EV034971795US addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Brenda Campillo  
Name of Person Mailing Paper

  
Signature of Person Mailing Paper